

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3755

INFO USCINCSO

S E C R E T SAN JOSE 1304

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/ PFOR, CS

SUBJ: CASP PRE- IG

REF: STATE 67455

1. RE PARA 1 REFTEL ON MILGP, POSITION PROPOSED TO BE CUT IS ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR, E-7. THIS WOULD RESULT IN VERY MINIMAL REDUCATION IN LIAISON CAPABILITY, PROBABLY NOT MORE THAN 10 TO 15 PERCENT. ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE ABSORBED BY JAO IF POSITION DELETED ARE ESSENTIALLY: A) CUSTODY SECRET DOCUMENTS; B) CUSTOMS PROCESSING OF LOGISTICS ARRIVING ABOARD MILITARY AIRCRAFT; C) MAIL AND CORRESPONDENCE DELIVERY SERVICE; D) TYPING CLASSIFIED CORRESPONDENCE. HOWEVER, WE WISH TO MAKE CLEAR THAT OUR PROJECTION OF THIS DECREASE WAS VERY TENTATIVE. OUR INTENTION WAS THAT WE WOULD REVIEW THIS POSSIBILITY AGAIN A YEAR HENCE IN LIGHT OF CIRCUMSTANCES PREVAILING. THUS THE WORDS IN THE CASP " ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT JAO CAN ASSUME FURTHER SUPPORT FUNCTIONS CURRENTLY PERFORMED BY MILGP" SHOULD NOT BE READ TO MEAN THAT WE HAVE IN FACT ALREADY ASSUMED THAT TO BE THE CASE. JAO CAPABILITY TO ABSORB THE RESPONSIBILITIES ABOVE WOULD TO A VERY LARGE DEGREE REQUIRE THE SUPPORT OF US PERSONNEL. THEREFORE WE HAVE TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE NEED TO INCREASE THE EMBASSY US ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF TO ABSORBE THE SHIFTED WORKLOAD. WE ARE NOT IN FACT SURE THAT THIS WILL BE FEASIBLE. IN SUM, WE ARE STUDYING THIS MATTER AND INTENDED TO INDICATE ONLY THAT. IF US AGENCIES NEED A FIRMER PROJECTION THAN THAT FOR THEIR PLANNING PURPOSES, WE REQOMMEND
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THAT THE LEVEL BE KEPT AT 4 POSITIONS, AND WE WILL MAKE A FIRMER RECOMMENDATION IN NEXT YEAR'S CASP AFTER FURTHER STUDY OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND EXPERIENCE.

2. RE PARA 2 REFTEL, PUBLIC SAFETY, THE PRE-IG RECOMMENDATION IS ESSENTIALLY THE CASP RECOMMENDATION. WE NOTED THAT "THE CONTENT AND STRUCTURE" OF THE MISSIONS AND PROGRAMS WOULD BE REVIEWED FOLLOWING THE MAY 1974 CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION TO DETERMINE WHAT CHANGES, IF ANY, MAY BE INDICATED BY THE NEW CIRCUMSTANCES. WE RECOMMEND THAT THIS LANGUAGE CONTINUE TO BE USED. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT THE LANGUAGE OF REFTEL TO THE EFFECT THAT THE PROGRAM SHOULD BE PHASED OUT IF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION "SHOWS NO MORE DISPOSITION TO IMPLEMENT SUGGESTED REFORMS THAN PRESENT ADMINISTRATION" MAY INDICATE A WASHINGTON IMPRESSION OF MUCH MORE NEGATIVE RESULTS AND ATTITUDES THAN IN FACT EXIST. THE LACK OF INTEREST OR COOPERATION IN INSTITUTING REFORMS HAS BEEN ENTIRELY CIRCUMSCRIBED TO THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY. THE MINISTRY OF GOVERNMENT AND THE RURAL GUARD HAVE IMPLEMENTED A VERY ACTIVE AND SATISFACTORY REFORM PROGRAM, AND OF COURSE OUR PUBLIC SAFETY ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN ALMOST ENTIRELY CONCENTRATED THERE WITH GOOD RESULTS. THE NATIONAL POLICE SCHOOL UNDER THE MINISTRY OF THE PRESIDENCY HAS CONDUCTED, WITH PS ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE, MORE AND BETTER COURSES IN THE PAST YEAR THAN AT ANY TIME PREVIOUSLY, DESPITE THE FACT THAT BUDGET SUPPORT FOR A NEW PHYSICAL PLANT WAS NOT APPROVED. THE DIRECTORATE OF GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS AWAITS ONLY LEGISLATIVE ACTION
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